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**F A C S I M I L E C O V E R S H E E T**

**TO: Art Unit 1645**

**Examiner: Richard D. Hutson, Ph.D.**

**CLIENT NAME/NUMBER: 22201\_UT**

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**FROM: Enrique G. Estevez**

**DATE: September 8, 2003**

**NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING COVER SHEET): 16**

**COMMENTS/INSTRUCTIONS:**

Attached is the following:

**1. Amendment and Response to Office Action for:**

Patent application of:

Michael Blaber, et al.

Serial No.

10/037,633

Filing Date:

January 3, 2002

Title: Synthetic Nucleic Acid Sequences For 2,5-Diketo-D-Gluconic Acid Reductases  
And Associated Methods

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: )  
**MICHAEL BLABER ET AL.** )  
 )  
Serial No. **10/037,633** )  
 )  
Filing Date: **January 3, 2002** )  
 )  
For: **SYNTHETIC NUCLEIC ACID** )  
**SEQUENCES FOR 2,5-DIKETO-D-** )  
**GLUCONIC ACID REDUCTASES** )  
**AND ASSOCIATED METHODS** )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

Examiner: Richard Hutson, Ph.D.

Art Unit: 1652

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Honorable Commissioner of  
Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on April 8, 2003, please amend the above application as follows. The amendments set forth below include no new matter. A Petition for a Two Month Extension of Time is enclosed with authorization to charge the fee therefor. Also enclosed is a declaration under 37 CFR 1.132 by co-inventor Dr. Michael Blaber.

Applicants acknowledge withdrawal from consideration by the Examiner of claims 19-37 and 49-52 as drawn to a non-elected invention. Claims 1-18 and 40-43 remain at issue.